

HB 1449 -- PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES

SPONSOR: Redmon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill adds stationary public utility vehicles displaying lighted amber or amber and white lights to the list of emergency vehicles for which drivers of every motor vehicle must move over or slow down.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that utility workers do not have a choice of where they are assigned to work, and working on the side of the highway is dangerous. Because of that, it is important to protect them by adding them to the statute. Safety of work zones is of the utmost priority to keep workers safe.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Redmon; Missouri Rural Water Association; Missouri Energy Development Association; Liberty Utilities; Ameren Missouri; Empire District Electric; Russell E McCreary; Laclede Gas Company; Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives; David Heidbreder, Missouri State Utility Workers Conference; Timothy R. Campbell, Utility Workers Union Of America Local 455; Carl Voss, Missouri American Water; and Missouri American Water.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.